



**PRESS RELEASE**  
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**For Immediate Release**

January 23, 2007

**CHICAGO MAN SENTENCED FOR ROLE  
IN MAIL FRAUD SCHEME**

Tampa, FL - United States District Judge Elizabeth A. Kovachevich sentenced DAVID CANNON, age 62, of Chicago, Illinois to a sentence of 18 months' imprisonment, to be followed by a term of 3 years of supervised release on Monday, January 22, 2007. CANNON pled guilty on August 10, 2006 to a charge of mail fraud relating to the sale of camp ground memberships.

According to the indictment and the plea agreement, the defendant operated a business called Tampa Bay Campground Brokers ("TBCB"). TBCB purportedly purchased and re-sold campground memberships. TBCB would contact people interested in selling their campground memberships and indicate to them that it had prospective buyers interested in buying those campground memberships. However, TBCB also charged an advanced fee for the transaction, charging customers who wished to sell the memberships an "up front" fee for the brokering of the transaction. TBCB promised to refund the fee if the transaction did not close.

In actuality, TBCB had no such prospective purchasers and did not, as promised, pay out to customers who elected to sell their campground memberships through TBCB. The company merely collected the advanced fees from prospective campground sellers and never closed any transactions and never paid its customers the promised refunds. The courts sentenced CANNON based upon a loss to TBCB customers of approximately \$81,260.00.

The case was investigated by the United States Postal Inspection Service. It was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jay L. Hoffer of the Tampa Division.